## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20510

December 8, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, DC 20500-0005

## Dear Mr President:

In November 2011, the West Coast of Alaska was hit by a severe winter storm of a magnitude not seen in decades. Hurricane force winds damaged property and contributed to a significant storm surge and coastal flooding. More than 35 Alaska communities from Hooper Bay to the North Slope were impacted. Many sustained considerable damage to infrastructure such as roads, airports, helipads, seawalls, electrical distribution systems and other utilities.

With the harsh winter conditions in Alaska, it is imperative that both Federal and State assistance be made available to these communities as quickly as possible.

On December 5, 2011, Alaska Governor Sean Parnell declared a state disaster for the affected region and is requesting federal disaster assistance. As the Alaska Congressional Delegation, we write to request you give immediate and positive consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Lisa Murkowski

United States Senator

Mark Begich

United States Senator

Don Young

United States Representative